Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

N. R. FIELD SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Maryland COUNTY:

Baltimore Co.

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city or town:	ey Mill Road, 6	oth District	between F	alker Road	and Ber	ntley.
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	Check One) Check One	
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low rambl:	ing wooden structure of one story with a tall chimney. Clay	ode
TTTEL2 DOM	se on the property in good condition. Recent renairs permit:	ted
he present	owner to run some experimental batches of paper.	
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ł	CITY OR					s	STATE					CDDE
	Cockeysville						Md. 21030					
12.	STATE	LIAISON O	FFICER C	ERTIFICATIO	X	1	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION					
	As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set						I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.					
	level	oy the Nation of significan ational		Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation								
	Name		,			DateATTEST:						
	Title Keeper of The National Register											
	Date _				Date							

This mill, intact and still full of machinery in 1982, was built about 1888 and is apparently the third paper plant to occupy the property.

The first mill had probably been built between the time of the 1818 tax list (when no paper mills were found in that neighborhood) and 1823, when the Assessor's Field Book showed that Philip Kroh owned 97 acres of the tract "Disappointment" and a paper mill.

The 1833 tax ledger showed that Jarrett Shauck had come to own 50 acres of the tract "Vaughn's Disappointment" and a paper mill worth \$2000, also two gristmills.

The 1850 Baltimore County map by J.C. Sidney showed Jarrett Shauck's paper mill at this place. The 1850 census of manufacturers listed Jarrett Shauck's mill with \$2000 capital investment, water-powered production, five each male and female employees, and an annual output of 10,000 freeme? of printing and wrapping paper, worth \$30,000.

The Baltimore County Advocate of February 21, 1852, reported the burning of Jarrett Shauck's paper mill on Little Gunpowder.

Shauck sold the parcel containing "mills and machinery" to Abijah L. Knight in 1860. However, in the same year, Knight was an expert witness on the subject of water-power sites in a lawsuit involving land near Parkton (Wood-v.Withers). Knight testified that he was carrying on a paper mill, but he also stated that when he got the property from Shauck earlier that year, "There was a stone building about 30 feet square, with some old machinery in it for a paper mill, a small frame country dwelling; there was no mill or race or dam. I think there were about 60 acres of land to this improved water power." (Judicial Records EHA 30:64).

Later deeds show that Charles P. Knight and William H. Johnson were operating the mill but became bankrupt in 1869. Abijah L. and Amanda Knight conveyed to an assignee, Albert G. Maxwell. Maxwell sold the mill to John J. Abrahams in 1872.

The 1880 State business directory listed <u>Jos.</u> Abrahams as a paper maker at Bentley Springs. The 1880 manufacturers' census listed John Abrahams with \$5000 capital investment in a paper mill, 4 employees, and annual output of 110 tons of wrapping paper (\$4400), working over an 8-month season. The mill was then equipped with a tub engine and two beaters; maximum capacity was 1400 pounds. The paper machine had a 44-inch wide cylinder; the roll bars were 28 inches wide by 22 inches in diameter. There was a boiler and a 15 hp steam engine.

In 1881 (April 23), the heirs of J.J. Abrahams advertised in the <u>Maryland Journal</u> to sell a paper mill property on Little Gunpowder near Bentley's Springs known as the Valley Mill; there were 80 acres and a paper mill built of frame. There was also a mill race, water race, etc.

William H. Abrahams bought the mill in June 1881 and in 1883 sold to John W. Gore. County transfer books show that Gore built a new paper mill before 1889; the "old paper mill" was dropped from the tax rolls. Gore sold to Joseph Young in 1893. Young sold to the Bentley Paper Mills, Inc. in 1919.

By 1924, the corporation was in default and the court appointed Paul Y. Waters receiver. Waters conducted a public sale on August 12, 1924, and sold to Louis A. Dieter. Waters reported to the court that he had operated the mill as receiver for 26 weeks and made a profit of \$1400. Water's newspaper advertisement described the property as "improved by a paper mill with up-to-date equipment and in good running order with mill and dam and seven-room frame dwelling house."

Dieter conveyed a few months later to Bentley Paper Co., Inc. In 1928, when William S. Hart, Sr., was doing his Johns Hopkins thesis on the decline of the Maryland paper industry, he visited Valley Paper Mill and listed Paul Y. Waters as its president. The works had 7 employees and was manufacturing 8000 pounds per annum of grey bogus. The paper was made from old newspapers and was used for lining crates. The machinery was worth \$18,000. In 1925, the mill had been making toilet paper, paper towels, and grey bogus; profit had been \$3000 to \$5000 per annum. Wages then ranged from \$3.60 to \$4.25 per diem.

In October 1931, Ernest R. Young bought the works and held it until 1945 when he and his wife sold to Henry K. Williamson. Only 17 days later, Williamson sold to Freeland Paper Company, Inc. In 1955, the plant was sold to Freeland Paper Products, Inc.

By 1957, Freeland Paper Products was in default of mortgage and a public sale was ordered by the courts. Elmer R. Haile advertised the plant in the <u>Jeffersonian</u> of February 15, 1957:

The improvements thereon consist of a paper mill, dwelling, ware house, storage building, spring house and other outbuildings.

Included in the mill are all appliances, machinery and equipment of every kind and description used in the manufacture of paper, including mill dam, mill race, and water rights thereto belonging and appertaining.

This is an old established paper mill, fully equipped with all motors, machinery and appliances essential to the manufacture of paper, and will be sold so equipped. A splendid opportunity for any interested in that line of business.

Resolute Paper Products Corporation of New York bought the works for \$25,000 at the 1957 sale. In January 1959, they sold the entire 85-acre property to Monroe B. Dell and wife, "particularly the paper mill."

On August 27, 1982, Mr. Dell showed Richard Parsons and Geoffrey Fielding of the B.C. Public Library, and John McGrain of the Office of Planning and Zoning through the mill. Mr. Dell stated that he had not manufactured paper since 1966 or 1967. He believed that the equipment would operate if needed. The mill contains a large electric motor and also a Parker slide-valve steam engine. The water-powered turbine is still set in the ground under the downstream end of the mill but is probably out of action.

Dimensions of this building given in the 1918 tax ledger during the ownership of Joseph W. Young were:

Mill 20 x 31 50 x 71 (\$1000)

Stone Building 20×38 (\$304)